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NASA Johnson Space Center, Houston, Texas

# **JSC Low-Power, Low-Datarate Wireless Sensor Network Update**

CCSDS Wireless Working Group  
Spring 2011 Face-to-Face  
Berlin, Germany

Raymond Wagner, Richard Barton

NASA-JSC/EV4

May 16, 2011

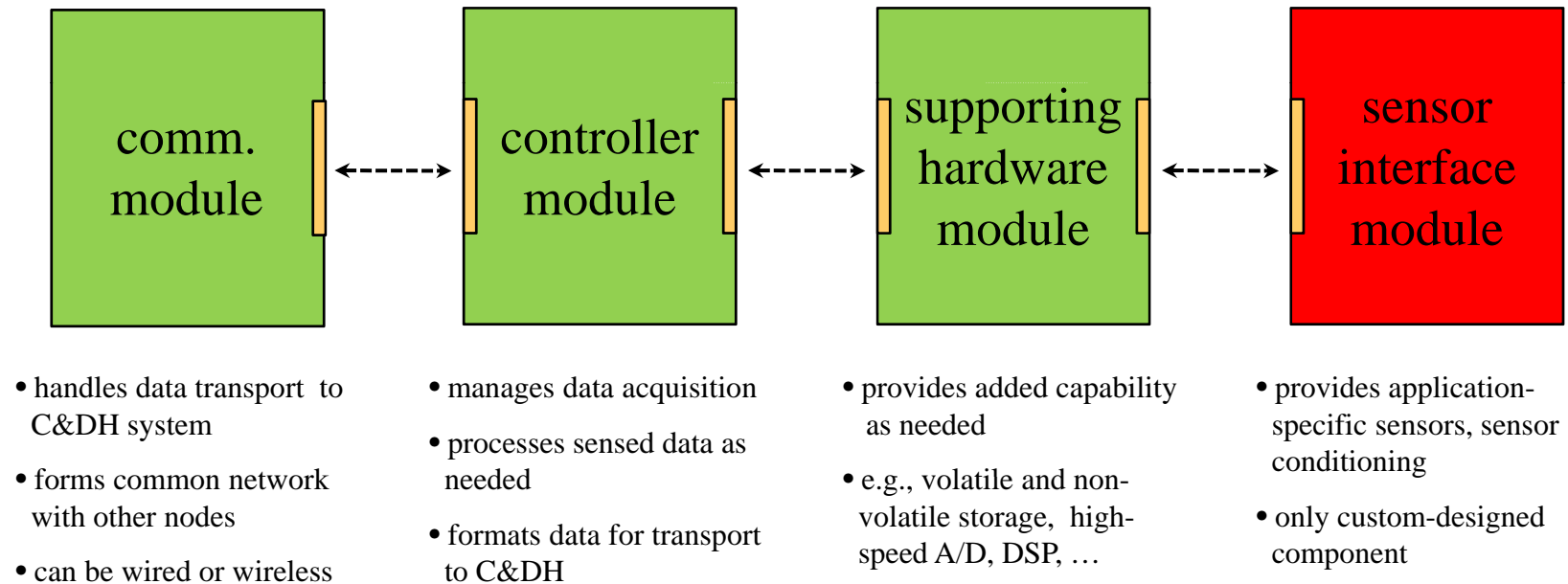


## Agenda

- **Modular wireless instrumentation concept overview**
- **JSC WSN node v.1 review**
  - Desert RATS 2010 Habitat Demonstration Unit (HDU)
- **ISA100.11a and ZigBee performance comparison results**
  - JSC WSN node v.2, TI development hardware
- **Radiation testing results**
  - Nivis VN210 ISA100.11a radio, VR900 gateway
  - TI MSP430-F5438 microcontroller
- **JSC Modular Instrumentation v.1**
  - Nivis ISA100.11a radio
  - Desert RATS 2011 HDU
- **Forward Work**
  - Smart Sensor Inter-Agency Reference Testbench (SSIART)
  - 802.15.4a



## JSC Modular Instrumentation Architecture



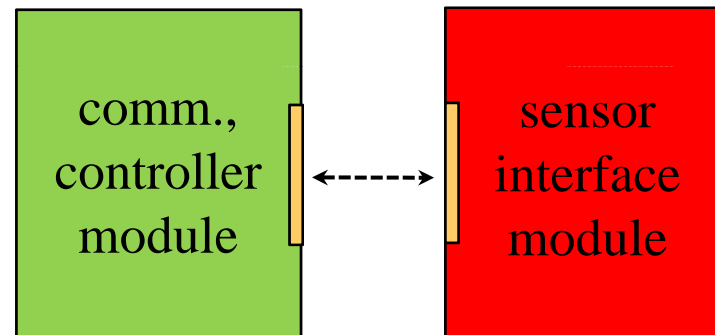


The diagram illustrates a WSN network topology. On the left, a 'C&DH application' (represented by a computer icon) is connected to a 'WSN gateway' (represented by a blue box with an antenna). The gateway is connected to a network of sensor nodes. The nodes are represented by green rectangles with three vertical bars inside, and a colored square on the right indicating the sensor type. The sensor types are labeled below the nodes: 'accelerometers' (red square), 'radiation' (yellow square), 'acoustic' (pink square), and 'temperature, pressure, humidity' (blue square). The nodes are connected in a mesh-like structure, with dotted lines representing the communication links between them.



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## JSC WSN Node v.1, v.2 Architecture





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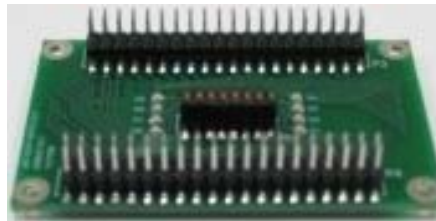
## JSC/EV WSN Node v.1

- **EV2/EV4-produced WSN node:**
  - SB-WSN radio module
  - TI MSP430 application processor
  - fielded in Habitat Demonstration Unit at Desert RATS 2010
  - forms basis for current EV2/EV4 modular instrumentation design (inc. advanced ISA100.11a WSN protocol) – to be demonstrated at Desert RATS 2011

- **Sensor cards:**



environmental  
(light, 3-axis accel., temp.)



prototype/debug



HDU:  
(10-channel 4-20 mA)



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## Habitat Demonstration Unit (HDU)

### **HDU participated in DesertRATS 2010 Exercises:**

- 8 JSC nodes provided wireless instrumentation; 3 held in reserve
- Up to 10 channels of data gathered per node
  - temperature (LDC)
  - humidity (HDC)
  - differential pressure
- Requires coexistence with multiple wireless systems in an operational environment:
  - 802.11b, 802.11g
  - Tropos (extended-range .11n)
  - Bluetooth





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## ZigBee, ISA100 Performance Evaluation Hardware

- **JSC WSN node v. 2:**
  - Nivis VN210 radio, TI MSP430-F5438 microcontroller
- **TI MSP430 Experimenters Board:**
  - TI CC2530 radio (ZigBee Pro stack), TI MSP430-F5438 microcontroller
  - looks identical to custom ZigBee JSC node from application code point of view
  - low-cost stand-in



ZigBee



JSC WSN node v. 2  
(ISA100)





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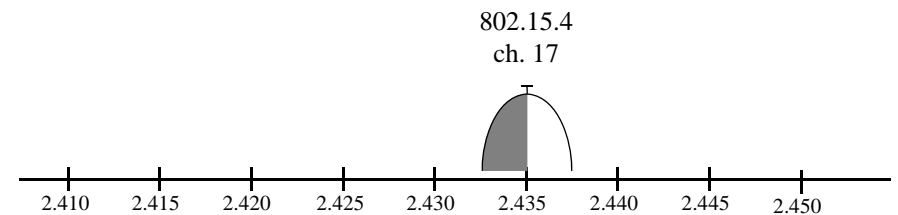
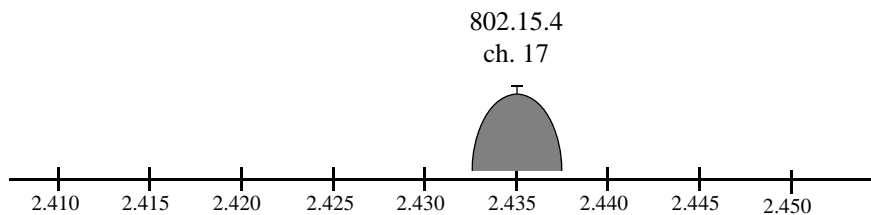
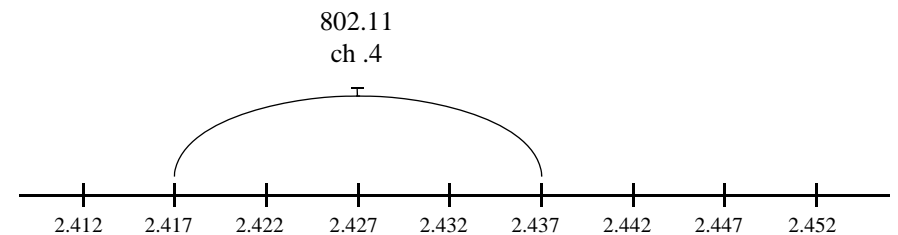
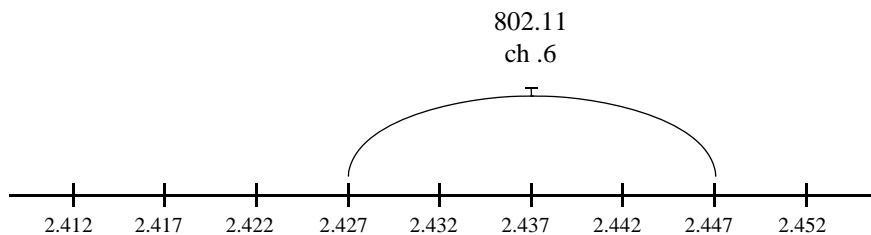
## **ZigBee, ISA100 Performance Evaluation Methodology**

- **Primarily concerned with performance under RF interference conditions:**
  - measuring goodput – application level throughput
- **IEEE 802.11g router used as interference source:**
  - traffic generated between laptop (wireless to router) and workstation (wired to router) using Iperf
  - flows considered: 0 Mbps, 5 Mbps, 10 Mbps, 20 Mbps
  - also considered maximum single-flow (~ 30 Mbps)
- **Maximum-length packets sent using each protocol at several periodicities:**
  - Packet lengths: 80B ZigBee, 76B ISA100.11a
  - Packet periodicities: 1 s/packet, 5 s/packet, 10 s/packet



## ZigBee Performance Evaluation Setup

- ZigBee nodes set to 802.15.4 channel 17 (2.435 GHz)
- 802.11g set to generate two kinds interference:
  - direct: 802.11 Ch. 6 (2.437 GHz)
  - sideband: 802.11 Ch. 4 (2.427 GHz)



direct  
interference

sideband interference



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# ZigBee Performance Evaluation Results

Interference Bandwidth:	Seconds Between packets	Test 1:	Test 2:	Test 3:	Average:	Std.Dev. Of Tests:
0	1	100.00			100.00	n/a
5	1	94.83	100.00	97.40	91.00	2.58
10	1	98.29	99.99	99.89	99.39	0.96
20	1	74.97	61.88	68.34	64.37	6.55
54	1	25.28	25.04	27.18	24.75	1.17
0	5	100.00			100.00	n/a
5	5	99.94	100.00	100.00	95.33	0.03
10	5	100.00	99.90	99.75	93.32	0.13
20	5	95.72	96.81	95.33	95.95	0.76
54	5	80.17	74.93	75.76	62.80	2.82
0	10	100.00	100.00	100.00	95.11	0.00
5	10	100.00	100.00	100.00	93.50	0.00
10	10	100.00	100.00	97.94	98.98	1.19
20	10	98.67	97.78	98.72	91.98	0.53
54	10	80.50	79.86	63.94	69.91	9.38

Direct Interference



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## ZigBee Performance Evaluation Results

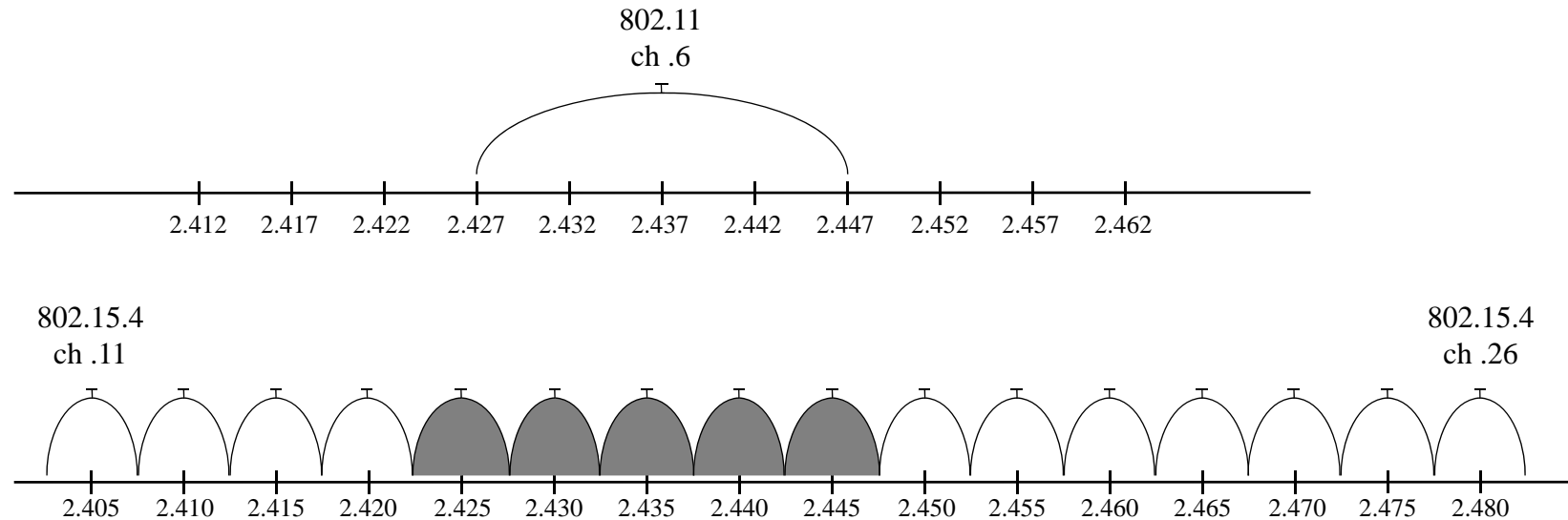
Interference Bandwidth:	Seconds Between packets	Test 1:	Test 2:	Test 3:	Average:	Std.Dev. Of Tests:
5	1	95.92	99.97	100.00	98.63	2.35
10	1	99.94	99.96	99.95	99.95	0.01
20	1	47.04	55.26	79.68	60.66	16.97
54	1	27.65	31.75	31.17	30.19	2.22
5	5	99.97	98.11	99.97	99.35	1.07
10	5	99.94	100.00	100.00	99.98	0.03
20	5	95.14	95.66	97.08	95.96	1.01
54	5	87.39	82.81	86.19	85.46	2.38
5	10	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00
10	10	100.00	99.89	100.00	99.96	0.06
20	10	98.28	98.89	98.89	98.68	0.35
54	10	85.89	89.17	89.33	88.13	1.94

### Sideband Interference



## ISA100 Performance Evaluation Setup

- ISA100 nodes use all 16 available 802.15.4 channels
- 802.11g set to Ch. 6 (2.437 GHz)





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# ISA100 Performance Evaluation Results

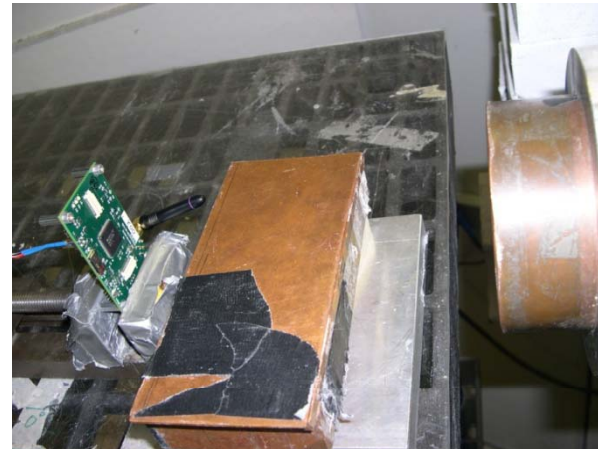
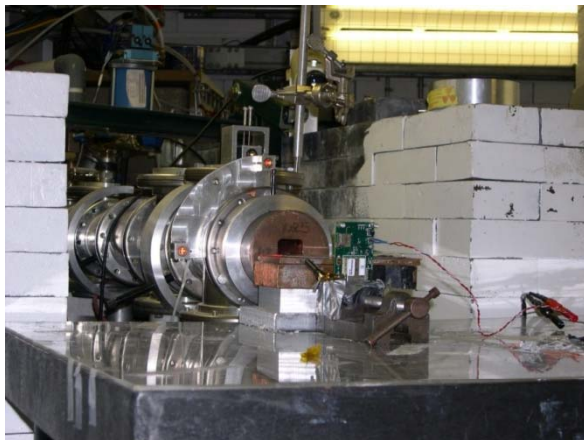
Interference Bandwidth:	Seconds Between packets	Test 1:	Test 2:	Test 3:	Average:	Std.Dev. Of Tests:
0	1	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
5	1	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
10	1	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
20	1	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
54	1	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
0	5	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
5	5	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
10	5	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
20	5	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
54	5	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
0	10	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
5	10	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
10	10	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
20	10	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
54	10	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD



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## **Nivis VN210, TI MSP430 Radiation Test**

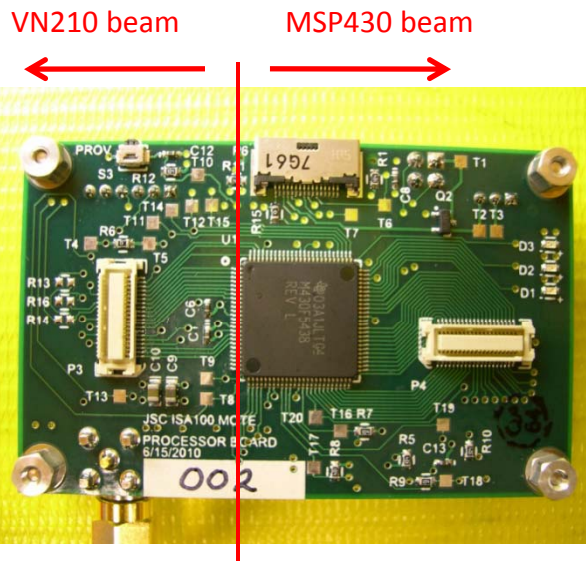
- **JSC WSN node v.2 and gateway tested at Indiana University Cyclotron Facility on 2/20/2011**
- **~ 200 mega-electron-volt (MeV) proton beam used**
- **Each beam position exposed to minimum fluence of  $1e^{10}$  protons/cm<sup>2</sup> (600 rads)**
- **Each test run continued until an anomalous event was detected or the total  $1e^{10}$  protons/cm<sup>2</sup> fluence reached**



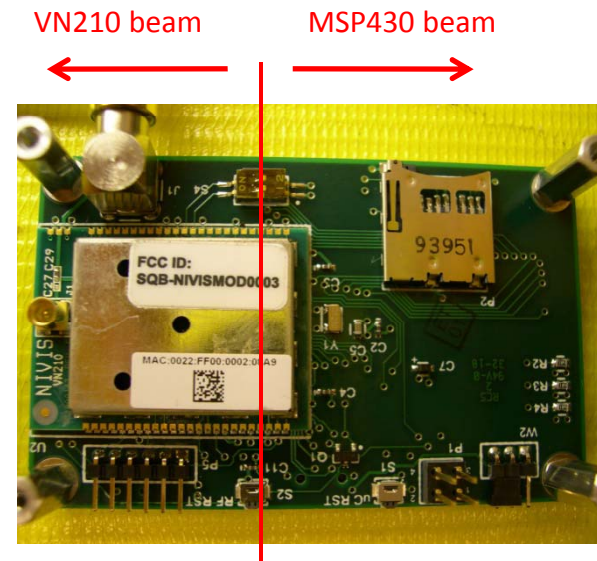


## Nivis VN210, TI MSP430 Radiation Test

- WSN node beam shielded to expose VN210, MSP430 separately
- MSP430 mean time between failure (MTBF) calculated at 596 days
- VN210 MTBF calculated at 86.3 days
- WSN node MTBF calculated at 75.4 days



beam positioning (top view)



beam positioning (bottom view)

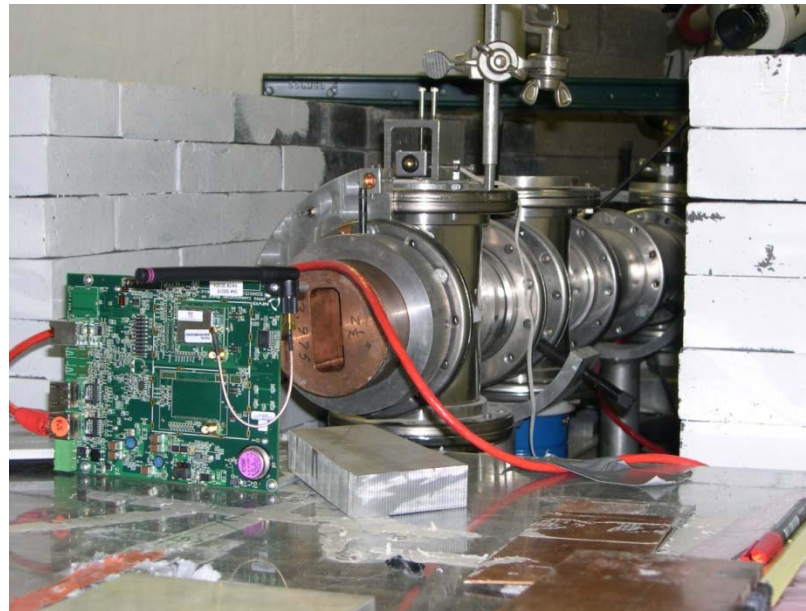




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## **Nivis VR900 Radiation Test**

- **WSN node beam exposed VN210 radio (top) and FreeScale ColdFire processor board (bottom) in single beam**
- **VR900 mean time between failure (MTBF) calculated at 49.9 days**

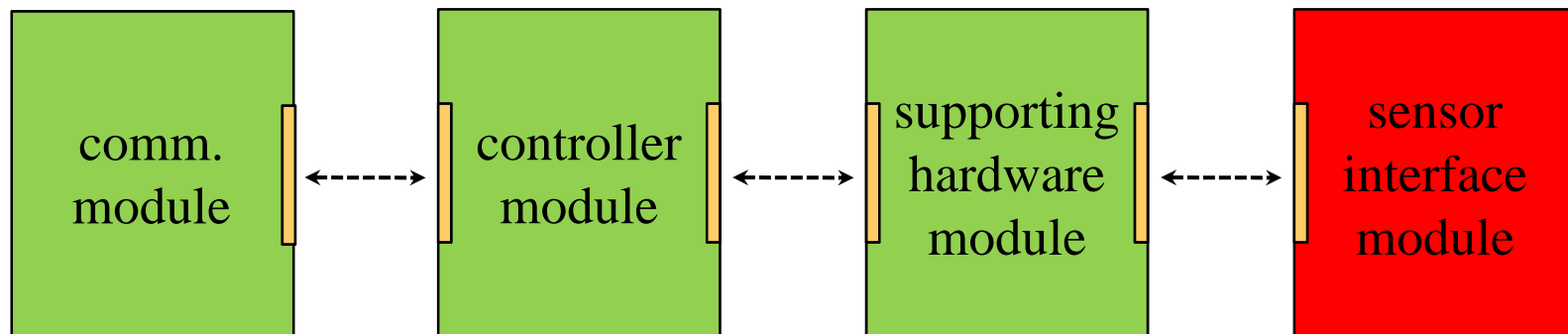


VR900 in beam



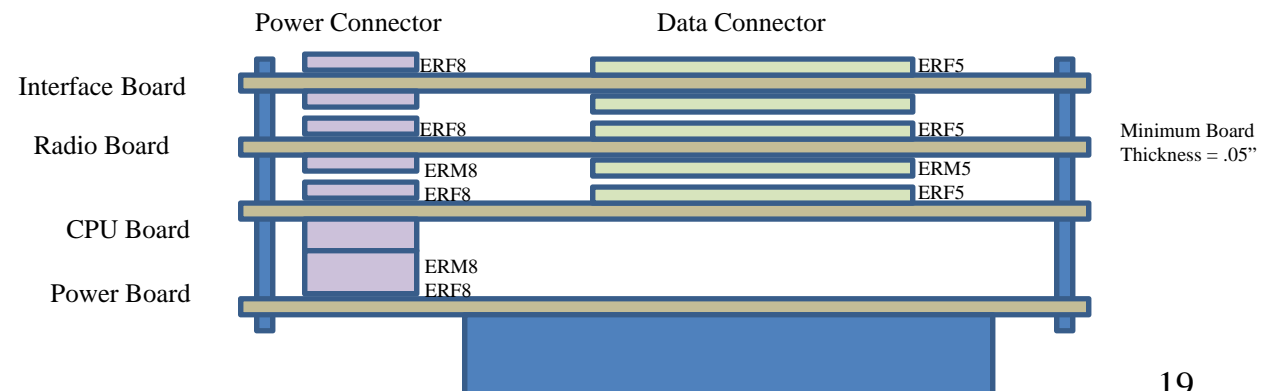
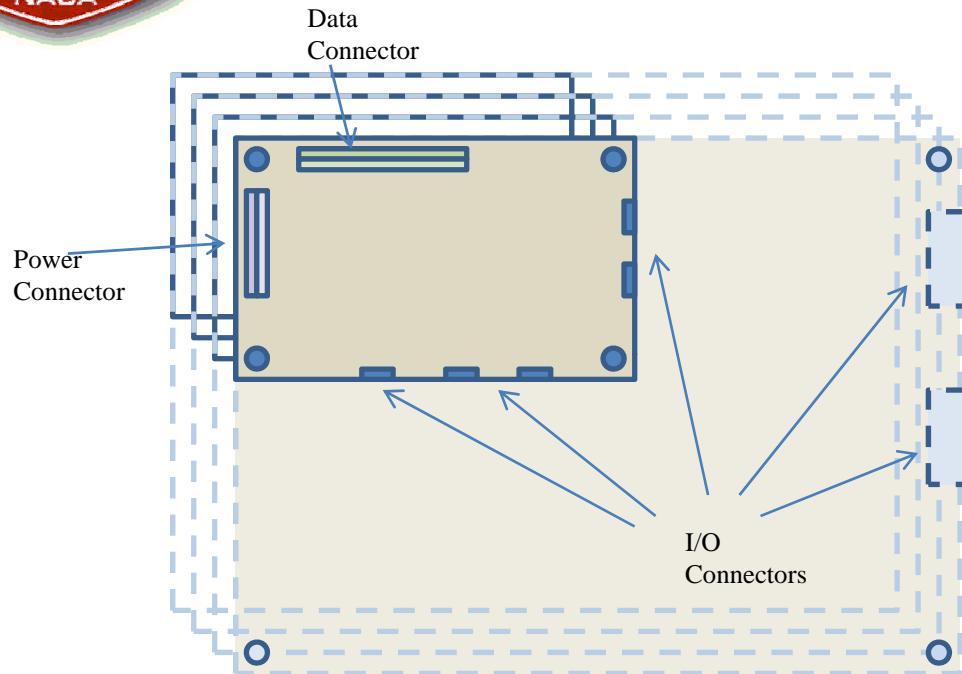
## **JSC Modular Instrumentation, v. 1**

- **WSN effort migrating to full modular instrumentation program**
- **Goal: stock of components that can complete 80% of any distributed measurement task with 20% customization work**
- **Communication can be wired or wireless**
- **Provides platform for laboratory development of new radio platforms with path for quick infusion into field applications**





# Modular Instrumentation Stack



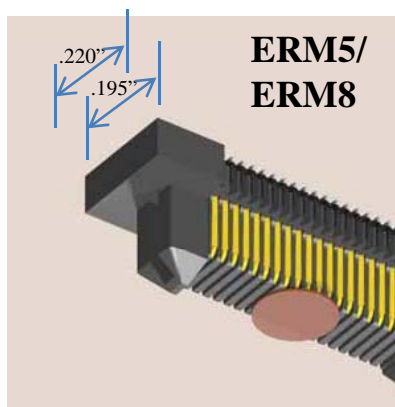


# Power, Data Connector Details

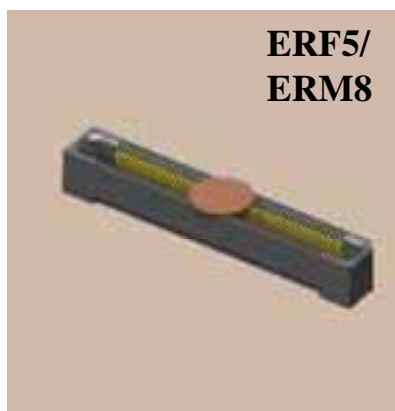
Digital Ground (11pins)  
 Analog Ground (4pins)  
 +/- 12V (2pins)  
 + 5V digital (3pins)  
 +/- 5V analog (2pins)  
 + 3.3V or 3.0V (4pins)  
 + 2.5V (4pins)  
 Reset (1 pin)  
 Power\_good (1pin)  
 Spare ( 8pins)

---

40 pins total = .866" long (ERM8)



80  
 User defined  
 Pins = 1.056" long (ERM5)



SAMTEC's Rugged High Speed Socket/Header:

**EREM8/ERF8 (for Power Connector)**

SMT (.0315" pitch)

2.1A @ 85 C

**ERM5/ERF5 (for Data Connector)**

SMT (0.0197" pitch)

1.9A @ 80 C ambient

194VAC rated

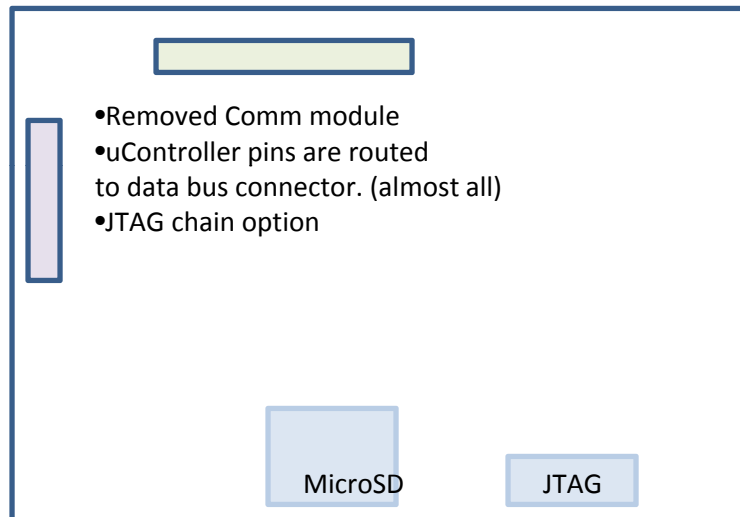
Mated Height: (Power Connector)			
<u>ERF8</u> LEAD STYLE	<u>ERM8</u> LEAD STYLE		
	-02.0	-04.0	-05.0
-05.0	(7,00) .276	NA	(10,00) .394
-07.0	(9,00) .354	NA	(12,00) .472

Mated Height: (Data Connector)			
<u>ERF5</u> LEAD STYLE	<u>ERM5</u> LEAD STYLE		
	-02.0	-04.0	-05.0
-05.0	(7,00) .276	(9,00) .354	(10,00) .394
-07.0	(9,00) .354	(11,00) .433	(12,00) .472

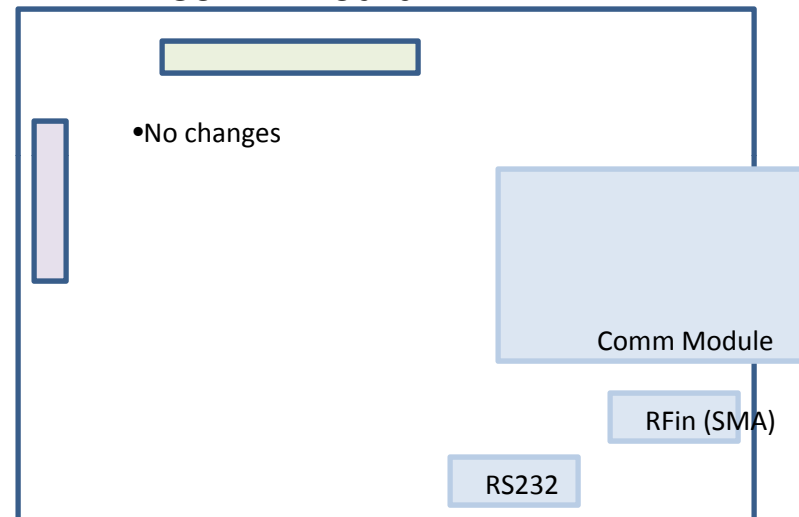


## Modular Instrumentation Components

Processor Board



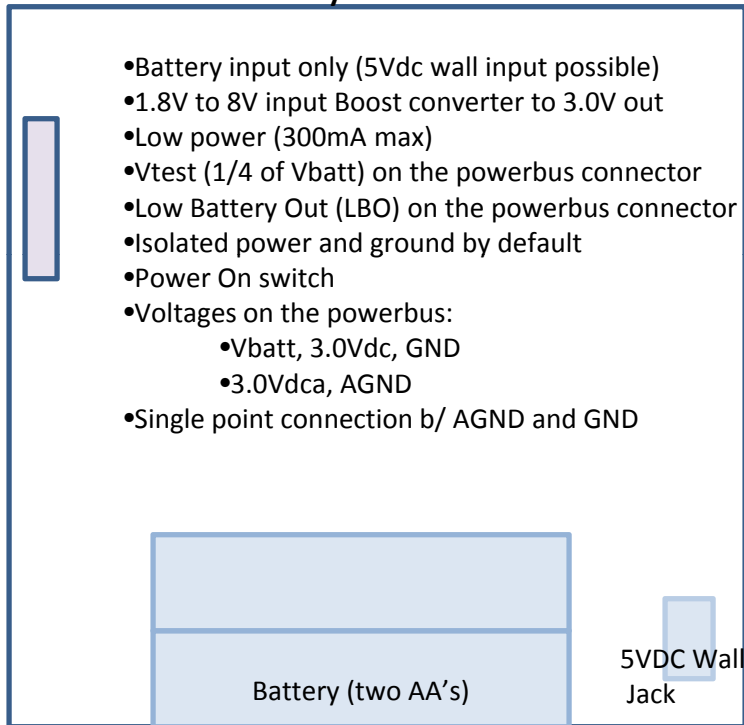
Comm Board





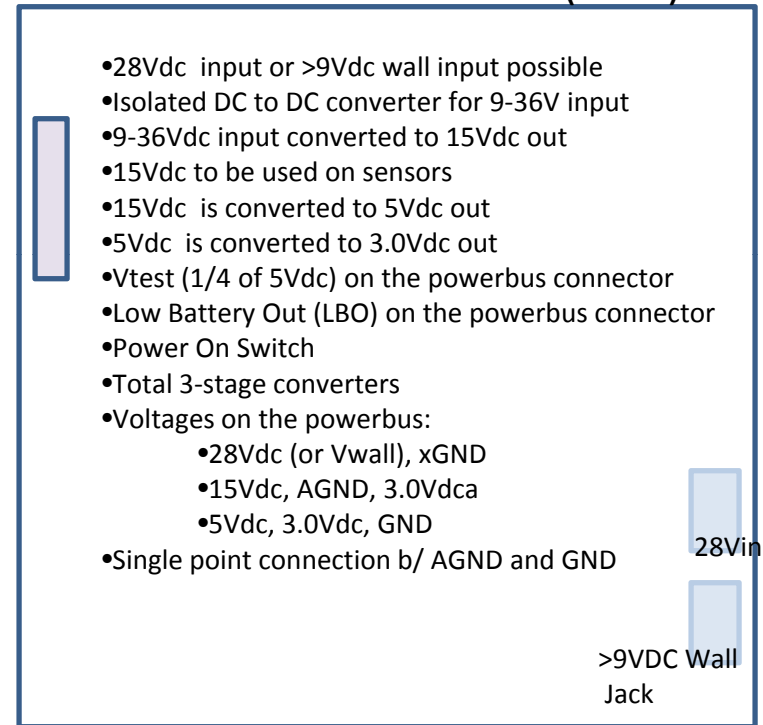
## Modular Instrumentation Components

### Battery Power Board



If this power board is used, other than processor board,  
what other boards will be serviced by this power supply?  
What is the power requirement?

### 28V Power Board (HDU)



Mounting holes are tied to a thermal plane (if existing), **not** Grounded.



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# Modular Instrumentation v. 1

## Prototype Components



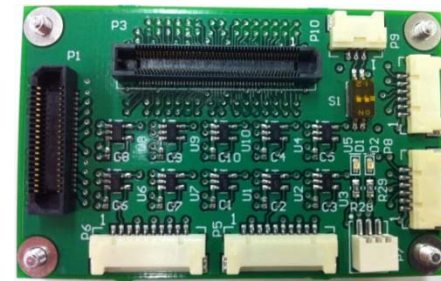
processor board



ISA100.11a comm. board



28V power board



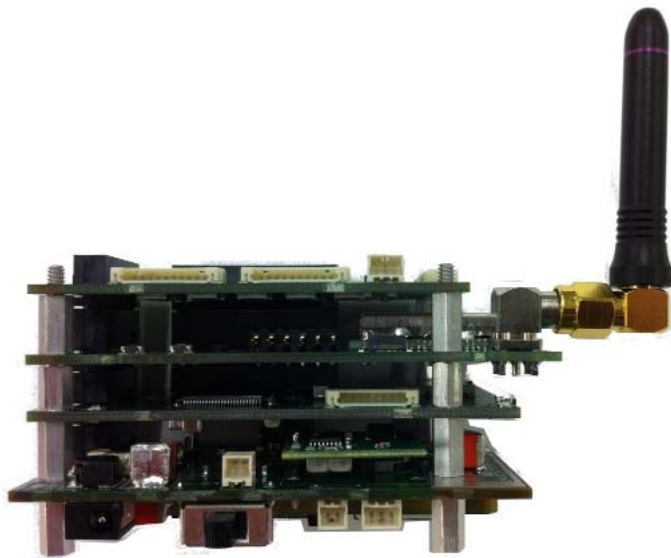
4-20mA current loop sensor board



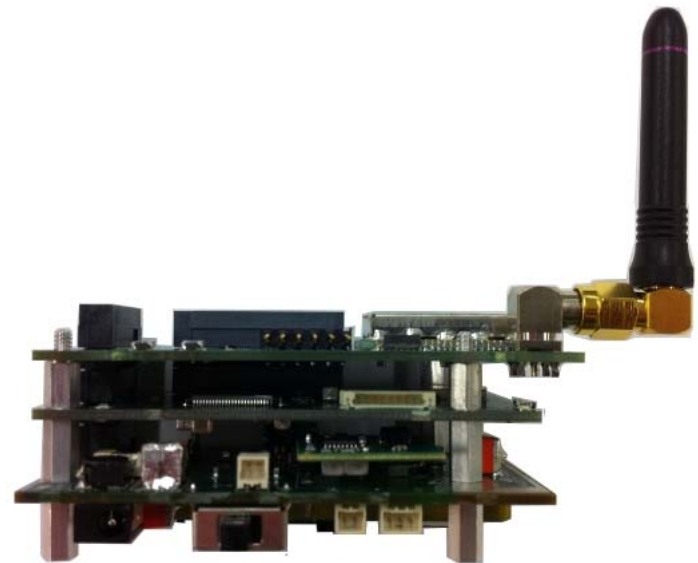


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# Modular Instrumentation (v. 1)



4 board stack  
(inc. sensors)



3 board stack





## Forward Work

- **Complete ISA100.11a vs. ZigBee reliability study:**
  - develop 802.15.4/ZigBee modular radio component?
- **Extend ISA100.11a support to include full range of supported modes**
  - block-transfer at ~ 40 kbps
- **Investigate 802.15.4a capabilities with modular comm. board**
  - how to test/characterize/compare?
- **Explore supporting SSIART with modular instrumentation hardware**
  - what needs to change for v. 2 to make the toolkit more SSIART-like? what needs to stay the same?



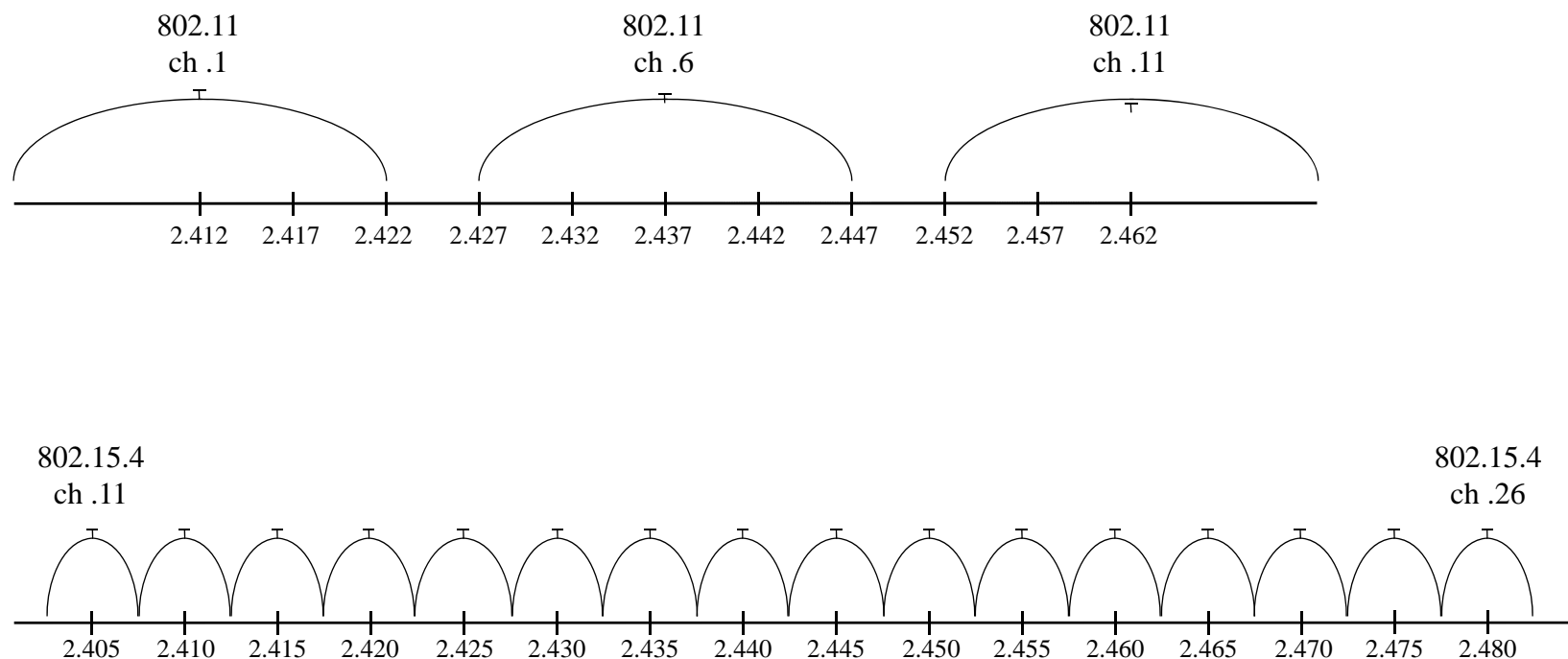
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# **Backup**



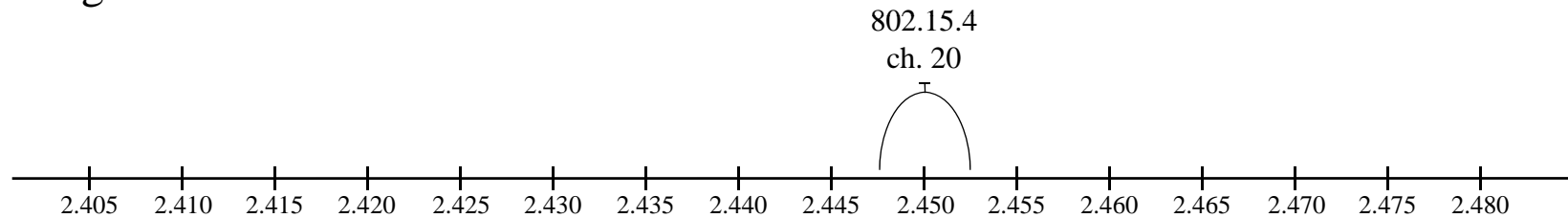
## 802.15.4 / 802.11 Coexistence



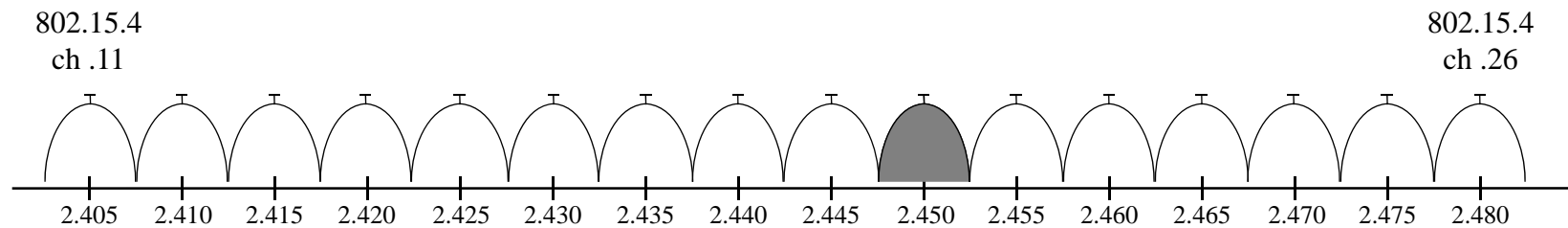


# ISA100.11a/Zigbee Coexistence

Zigbee channel:



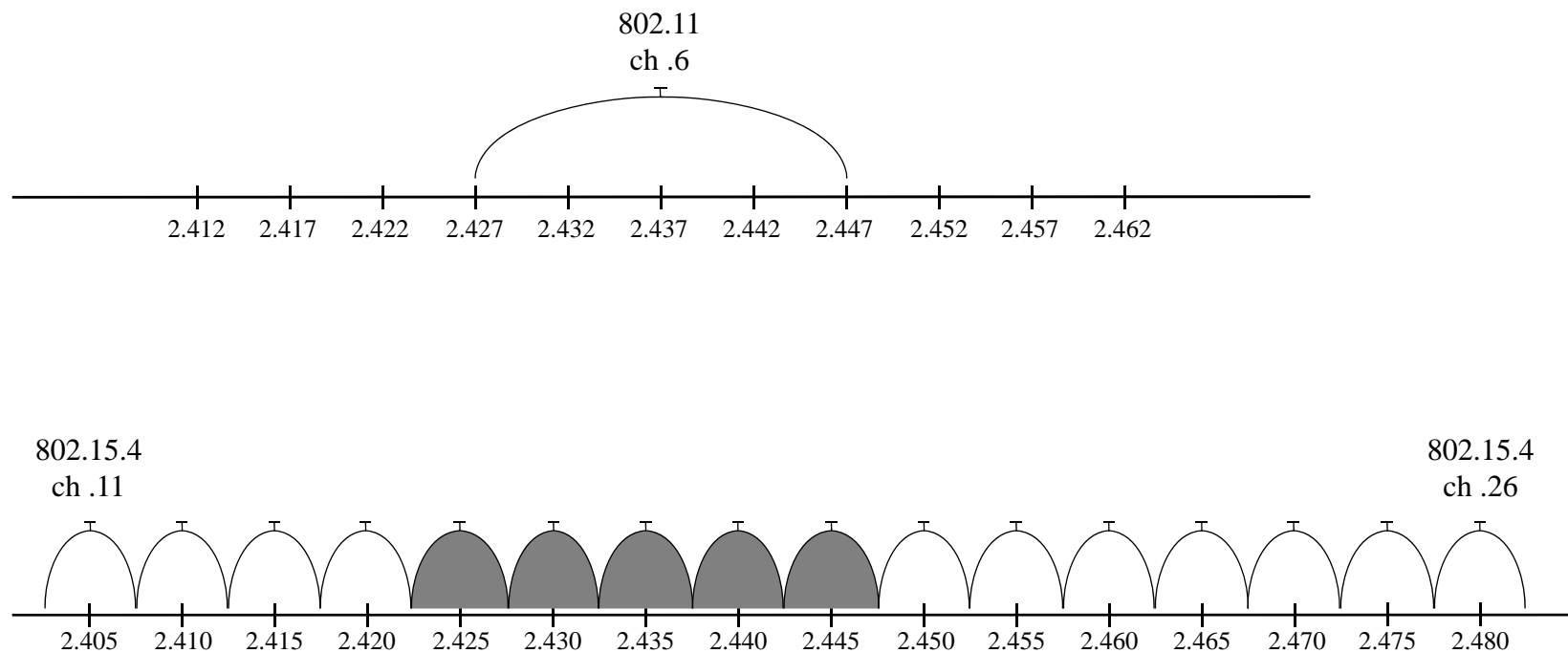
ISA100.11a channels:





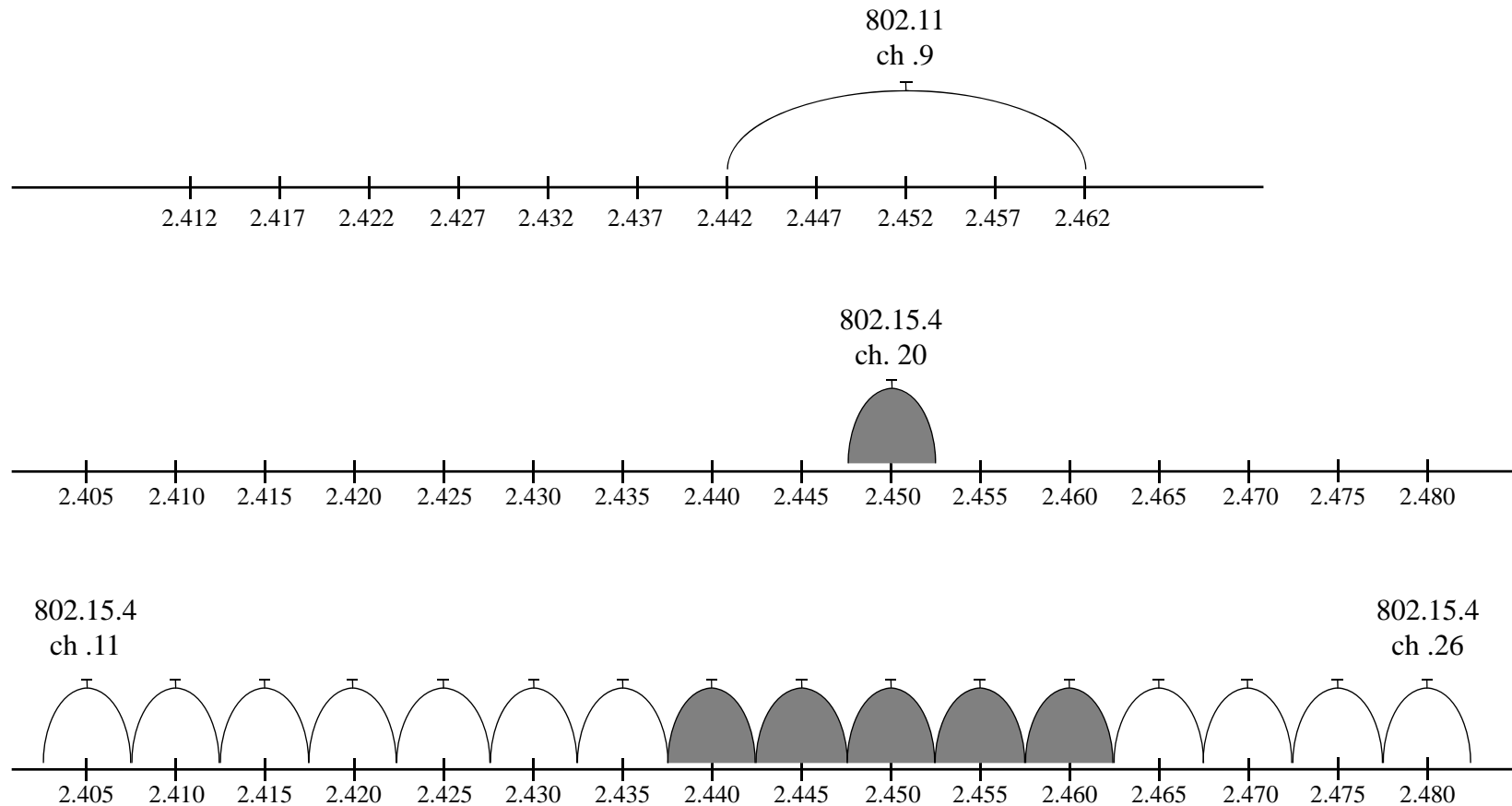
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# ISA100.11a/802.11 Coexistence





## ISA100.11a/Zigbee/802.11 Coexistence





## WSN Standards Research Topics

**JSC wireless habitat test bed provides representative environment for WSN testing. Issues to investigate include:**

- RF issues
  - Data delivery reliability – resistance to multi-path, interference, noise
  - Data throughput rate
  - Interoperability – assess impacts on 2.4 GHz 802.11 WLAN
- Power issues
  - Radio/networking component
    - Low power, full mesh networking
  - Sensing/processing component
    - Scheduled sensing
    - Event-driven sensing
- Application issues
  - Feasibility of sensing transient events
  - Usefulness of MAC-derived application time synchronization
- Protocol issues:
  - which protocols best apply when?
  - modifying existing commercial protocols or using as-is
  - investigating future standards-based protocols

